









An Adaptive Traffic Light System for Geothermal Operations

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Moment d'Échanges Scientifiques et Sympathiques Autour des GEoscienceS



EGS & controlling induced seismicity: sometimes successful



- Helsinki summer 2018
- 6.1 km deep geothermal well
- 18,160 m³ of fresh water pumped over 49 days
- 24 borehole seismometers network

1.9

1.5

1.1

0.7 0.3

-0.1 -0.5

30 03 030

August

Moment magnitude M_n

- M_{red_light} 2.0 for TLS
- $M_{max,obs} 1.9 (M_L)$
- 8412 events recorded

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Traffic Light System

Simple, useful – but not very smart:

The weather analogue: A TLS means that you take an umbrella if you see cloud emerging.

Useful for the short term & simple and robust. But not robust against surprises nor for longer forecast horizons.



EGS & controlling induced seismicity: sometimes less successful...



Beyond the Traffic Light System

Beyond cloud viewing

- If you plan your next weekend trip, you will check a forecast.
- A forecast will take a lot of data, and various models to give you the best estimate of what will happen in the next days...
- And you would expect that:
 - Models are tested, validated.
 - As new data arrives, models are updated.



Adaptive Traffic Light System: Monitoring in REAL-TIME



Adaptive Traffic Light System



Adaptive Traffic Light System



Adapted from Grigoli et al., 2017



ATLS: geomechanical modelling

A: Using seismological data to improve the modelling as the operations go

- \rightarrow focal mechanisms
- \rightarrow clustering and/or alignments of events

B: Forecasting based on current injection plan & alternative injection scenarii → balance risk/efficiency

 \rightarrow b-value in time



TOUGH2-Seed

A coupled hybrid hydro-geomechanical model



Current work

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- TOUGH2-Seed model complexity tests
- B-value evolution in time and space
 - From basic model (Goertz-Allmann & Wiemer 2013) to full T2S
- Injection strategies: determining the 'best' efficiency/risk ratio



Current work

b-value evolution in time and space – Increasing Model Complexity



Ritz et al. 2019 (in prep)

ATLS applications this summer: first demonstration

Geldinganes peninsula, Iceland

District heating for Reykjavík



ATLS applications this summer: first demonstration





Future of ATLS

- Integration of more complex models
 - THM models planned
 - Geochemistry to go to THMC?
- To be applied in other EGS test sites
- Use in everyday operations of hydrothermal reservoirs
 - Hengill (Hellisheiði and Nesjavellir)
- Your ideas for further developments and test sites are very welcome

Thank you for your attention !